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CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- Sub B1
- 5 1. An animal feed apparatus comprising in combination: a circular container having a peripheral sidewall closed at by a bottom panel thereof, and at a top end thereof an outwardly extending integral lip; an interior surface of the sidewall formed with an inwardly directed slope, and a lid providing an annular lid lip having a pair of annular, outwardly facing and outwardly extending, spaced apart ribs positioned for intimate frictional contact with the sloped sidewall of the container and adapted for vacuum engagement with the container so as to seal an interior space of the container.
- 10 2. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a side handle including an outwardly extending portion integral with the lip of the container and a downwardly extending portion spaced apart from the peripheral sidewall.
- 15 3. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the side handle provides plural stiffening ribs.
4. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the side handle is adapted for receiving a fence rail frictionally sandwiched between the downwardly extending portion and the container sidewall and wherein the outwardly extending portion includes a fastening aperture adapted for receiving a fastener for securement of the handle to the fence rail.
- 20 5. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the interior surface has a mirror finish adapted for inhibiting microorganism lodging.
6. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a pair of handle receivers placed in opposing positions and integral with the lip of the container, the receivers each downwardly extending and forming a downwardly directed receiving slot.
- 25 7. The apparatus of claim 5 further comprising a strap handle providing at each end of the strap handle, a shaft adapted for engaging the receiving slot, the shaft terminating with a restraining flange.
8. The apparatus of claim 6 wherein each of the shafts are asymmetrical such that the shafts are engagable with the receiving slots when the handle is positioned adjacent to the lip of
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the container, the shafts being thereafter not disengagable from the receiving slots when the handle is rotated to a position aligned axially with the container.

- 5 9. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the side handle is engaged with a fence rail frictionally sandwiched between the downwardly extending portion of the side handle and the container sidewall, the outwardly extending portion including a fastening aperture adapted for receiving a fastener for securement of the handle to the fence rail.

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